GRK 102 Handout on Conditionals (for Lessons 31 and 33)

Review: Basics

Conditionals sentences are composed of a protasis ("if" clause") and an apodosis (the "main" clause, i.e. what happens if the condition is fulfilled)

"The soldiers don't follow the general, if he isn't fine." Protasis? Apodosis?

In any conditional, if the verb of the protasis ("if" clause) is negated, the negative is **μή** (never οὐ!).

οἱ στρατιῶται οὐχ ἕπονται τῷ στρατηγῷ, εἰ μὴ καλός ἐστιν.

Review: Conditional Types Learned So Far

Particular Conditions (CS § 83 in Lesson 15).

Conditions about particular/specific situations (usually single acts) in the present or past; no implication as to whether the condition is actually fulfilled or not.

	PROTASIS	APODOSIS
Present Particular:	εἰ + present indic.	present indic.
	εἰ τὴν γέφυραν φυλάττει,	τὰς σπονδὰς λύει.
	If he's guarding the bridge,	*he's breaking the treaty.*
Past Particular:	εἰ + imperfect/aorist indic.	imperfect/aorist indic.
	εἰ τὴν γέφυραν ἐφύλαξε,	τὰς σπονδὰς ἔλυσεν.
	If he guarded the bridge,	*he broke the treaty.*

Contrary-to-Fact Conditions CS § 97 in Lesson 17).

Conditions about what would be happening (in the present) or what would have happened (in the past), but isn't or didn't, because the conditional isn't or wasn't fulfilled.

	PROTASIS	APODOSIS
Present CTF:	εἰ + imperf. indic.	imperf. indic. + ἄν
	εἰ τὴν γέφυραν ἐφύλαττει,	τὰς σπονδὰς ἂν ἔλυεν.
	If he is/were guarding the bridge, he would be breaking the treaty.	
	(but he isn't!....	*so he isn't.)*
Past CTF:	εἰ + aorist. indic.	aorist indic. + ἄν
	εἰ τὴν γέφυραν ἐφύλαξε,	τὰς σπονδὰς ἂν ἔλυσεν.
	If he guarded the bridge,	*he would have broken the treaty.*
	(but he didn't!....	*so he didn't.)*

In Lesson 31 and 33, we finally get NEW conditional types—indeed, the MOST COMMON types of conditions you'll encounter while reading Greek (and speaking English)!

Lesson 31: Subjunctive in Conditional Sentences (CS § 183)

The subjunctive mood is used in the protasis ("if" clause) of two new types of conditions: the "present general" and "future more vivid." In both cases, instead of εἰ, these conditions are introduced by ἐάν or (less frequently) ἤν. Note: ἐάν = εἰ + ἄν (also ἤν = εἰ + ἄν).

Present General Condition:

Conditions that generalize about things that happen in the present (as opposed to particular conditions about particular/specific/one-time conditions).

	PROTASIS	APODOSIS
Present General:	ἐάν or ἤν + subj.	present indic.
	ἐὰν ὁ στρατηγός τι κελεύσῃ,	οἱ στρατιῶται ποιοῦσιν.
	If the general orders something,	*his soldiers do (it).*

NOTE: tense of the subjunctive indicates ASPECT, not time!

Future More Vivid Condition:

Conditions about what will happen in the future, if something else happens first. The apodosis ("then" clause) is regarded as certain or extremely likely to occur, should the condition come true.

	PROTASIS	APODOSIS
Future More Vivid:	ἐάν or ἤν + subj.	future indic.
	ἐὰν ὁ στρατηγός τι κελεύσῃ,	οἱ στρατιῶται ποιήσουσιν.
	If the general orders something,	*his soldiers will do it.*

NOTE: tense of the subjunctive indicates ASPECT, not time!

Lesson 33 – Optative in Conditional Sentences

HANDOUT WILL BE COMPLETED WHEN WE REACH LESSON 33!